

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Turkmen SSR)

SUBJECT Airfields of Gasan-Kuli and Kizyl-Atrek

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1. In November 1949 an airfield, two kilometers square, was reported two kilometers north of Kizyl-Atrek (N 37-38, E 54-46). Although only two aircraft were permanently based at the field, up to twelve at one time had been observed near the runways, the surface of which consisted of packed dirt.
2. A large watchtower occupied a slight elevation on the northeast side of the field. On the west side of the field were located two one-story buildings, the entrances to which faced the watchtower. By November 1949 groundwork had been laid for another watchtower, and two more buildings, to the east and west of the airport, respectively. It was estimated that these constructions would be approximately 200 meters distant from the airport proper.
3. In the building west of the airfield were stationed guards, a part of whose duties lay in covering with tarpaulins the aircraft based there.
4. The airfield for Gasan-Kuli (N 37-30, E 53-59), a town distant from Kizyl-Atrek by 90 to 96 kilometers by road, was one-and-a-half kilometers southeast of the town. As in Kizyl-Atrek, the runways were dirt-surfaced. Small buildings on the east side of the field contained lounges for the workers and aircraft crews; no shelters were provided for the aircraft themselves, which were covered with tarpaulins when on the ground. Suspended board signs identified the aircraft.
5. A mail plane made a daily run from Kizyl-Atrek to Gasan-Kuli. Military aircraft had also been observed landing at the latter airport.

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